GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2388
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2008
JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE WITH FRANCE
Deora Shri Milind Murli

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is likely to conduct joint military exercise with France in March, 2008;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the significance of holding such exercises;

(d) the number of joint exercises conducted during the last one year and the countries with which conducted alongwith the total expenditure incurred on these exercises; and

(e) the extent to which the Indian Army has gained from these joint exercises?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Joint exercises with friendly foreign countries are considered on case to case basis basedon our need to engage them as directed by our National Security Guidelines. During the last oneyear joint exercises were conducted with France, USA, UK, Singapore, Russia,Thailand, China,Mongolia, Oman and Maldives.The expenses incurred on conduct of these exercises are determinedby the nature and complexity of the exercise for which specific expenditure sanction is issuedwith the approval of the competent authority.

(e) Joint exercises benefit the Indian Army by enhancing its capability through exchange of bestpractices and procedures and exposure to advanced technologies. Joint exercises also buildinteroperability, mutual understanding and give impetus to the ongoing Military to MilitaryCooperation.